



**Homeland  
Security**

*Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655*

September 24, 2018

**SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: 60537-98918399@requests.muckrock.com**

Matthew Hoppock  
MuckRuck  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

**Re: 2018-HQFO-01463**

Dear Mr. Hoppock:

This letter is in further response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), dated September 10, 2018. You are seeking records related to: 1. e-mail messages from EOIR employee Jonathan Daniel Pelletier to Gene P. Hamilton either in his current role as an employee of the Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General or his previous role with the Department of Homeland Security from January 20, 2017 to present 2. e-mail messages from Gene P. Hamilton to EOIR employee Jonathan Daniel Pelletier from January 20, 2017 to present (Date Range for Record Search: From 1/20/2017 To 9/10/2018). Your request was received in this office on September 10, 2018.

Our office forwarded to you an acknowledgement letter on September 11<sup>th</sup> 2018 stating we need more clarification as your request is too broad. In addition, our office received a fax on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 stating where you do not agree to narrow your search in any way.

After careful review of your FOIA request, we determined that your request is still too broad in scope or did not specifically identify the records which you are seeking. Records must be described in reasonably sufficient detail to enable government employees who are familiar with the subject area to locate records without placing an unreasonable burden upon the agency. For this reason, 6 C.F.R. Part 5 §5.3(b) of the DHS FOIA regulations require that you describe the records you are seeking with as much information as possible to ensure that our search can locate them with a reasonable amount of effort. Whenever possible, a request should include specific information about each record sought, such as the date, title or name, author, recipients, and subject matter of the records, if known, or the DHS component or office you believe created and/or controls the record. The FOIA does not require an agency to create new records, answer questions posed by requesters, or attempt to interpret a request that does not identify specific records.

Please resubmit your request containing a reasonable description of the records you are seeking. This is not a denial of your request. Upon receipt of a perfected request, you will be advised as

to the status of your request. If we do not hear from you within 30 days from the date of this letter, we will assume you are no longer interested in this FOIA request, and the case will be administratively closed.

For more information, visit these webpages:

DHS FOIA Office Contact Information: <https://www.dhs.gov/foia-contact-information>

DHS Operational and Support Components: <https://www.dhs.gov/operational-and-support-components>

Your request has been assigned reference number **2018-HQFO-01463**. Please refer to this identifier in any future correspondence. The status of your FOIA request is now available online and can be accessed at: <https://www.dhs.gov/foia-status>, by using this FOIA request number. Status information is updated daily. Alternatively, you can download the DHS eFOIA Mobile App, the free app is available for all Apple and Android devices. With the DHS eFOIA Mobile App, you can submit FOIA requests or check the status of requests, access all of the content on the FOIA website, and receive updates anyplace, anytime.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this matter, please feel free to contact this office at 1-866-431-0486 or at 202-343-1743.

Sincerely,  
Bruce George  
FOIA Program Specialist